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version of data. ("New" version of data and "original" version of data as used herein refer to the relative times at which the versions of data are used for interaction with the content, not to the relative times at which those versions of data are created.) Retrieval of the new version of data can occur in any of a variety of ways: the particular manner can depend on the environment in which the invention is used. In general, the new version of data can be stored at any location and in any manner (e.g., in any type of data storage device, using any type of data storage format), and the original version of data has associated therewith data that indicates the location of the new version of data. For example, the new version of data can be stored at a remote location on a network that is different from a location on the network at which the interaction occurs (in particular, this can be the case when the invention is implemented to enable interaction with a new version of data representing content initially presented in a Web page), the new version of data being retrieved from the remote location (e.g., streamed from the remote location) in response to the double-click input. The new version of data can also be stored at the location at which the interaction occurs (e.g., in the same data storage device as the original version of data).

The above description of the invention also illustrates another aspect of the invention. In an above-described implementation of the invention, a double-click input causes execution of a computer program that enables interaction with content using a version of data that is more complex than that used for an initial interaction with the content (i.e., production of a pictorial image display) in a Web page. However, the invention can be used to enable other types of interaction with content presented initially in a Web page. In accordance with the invention, a double-click input to a point-and-click user interface apparatus when an active visual display element that is part of a Web page is selected can enable any interaction that is different from any other interaction enabled by a single-click input to the point-and-click user interface apparatus at such time. For example, the double-click input may (by, for example, beginning execution of a computer program) enable interaction with a copy of the version of data that is used to enable interaction just prior to the double-click input. Further, such interaction may enable revisions to be made to the copy of the data and may enable the revised data to be saved. The double-click input may also cause execution of a new computer program (or transfer control to such computer program if already executing), or may enable new functionality in the same computer program that enabled interaction just prior to the double-click input, to enable a new type of interaction with the same version of data used to enable interaction just prior to the double-click input.

Above, the invention is sometimes described as implemented to enable interaction with image data used to generate a pictorial image. In particular, the invention is described as particularly implemented to enable interaction with design data provided by a CAD system. However, generally, the invention can be applied to enable interaction with any type of data, including, for example, data representing any type of pictorial image, video clip, music, graphical display (e.g., a historical graph of a stock price) and/or text (e.g., stock quotes). In particular, it is anticipated that the invention can advantageously be implemented to enable further exploration of data initially presented in a Web page. Further, the invention can be implemented to enable any type of interaction that is appropriate for a particular type of data. For example, the invention can be implemented so that a double-click input to a video display

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can cause a video that is initially displayed at a low resolution (as may be the case, for example, with a video displayed on a small part of a Web page) to be displayed at a higher resolution (e.g., displayed as a "full screen" video that fills an entire display screen). Or, for example, a double-click input to a music display (e.g., music displayed using a media player such as the RealJukebox audio player produced by RealNetworks, Inc.) can enable the use of new functionality with the music display, such as, for example, equalization. Or, for example, a double-click input to a projection graph can enable new functionality for interacting with the projection graph, such as the display of different bars or high-resolution printing. (The immediately previous two examples are illustrations of embodiments of the invention that can be implemented so that the new interaction enabled by the double-click input in accordance with the invention is the enablement of new functionality in the computer program used for the original interaction.) Or, for example, a double-click input to a graphical display of historical data (e.g., a graph of average seasonal temperature in a geographic region) can begin execution of a computer program that enables analysis of, and/or production of a new graphical display from, the full set of data (e.g., daily or hourly temperatures in the geographic region) from which the data (e.g., average temperature in the geographic region for each season of multiple years) was obtained for use in producing the original graphical display. In general, there can be as many examples of use of a double-click input to enable new interaction with content as there are data types displayed by content presentation tools.

Various embodiments of the invention have been described. The descriptions are intended to be illustrative, not limitative. Thus, it will be apparent to one skilled in the art that certain modifications may be made to the invention as described herein without departing from the scope of the claims set out below.

I claim:

1. A method, comprising the steps of:

ascertaining a double-click input to a point-and-click user interface apparatus when an active visual display element is selected, the active visual display element representing content with which a user can interact, wherein interaction with the content prior to the double-click input occurs using a first version of data representing the content; and

in response to the double-click input to the point-and-click user interface apparatus, enabling interaction with the content using a second version of data representing the content.

2. A method as in claim 1, wherein the second version of data represents the content in a different way than does the first version of data.

3. A method as in claim 2, wherein the second version of data represents the content or an aspect of the content in more detail than does the first version of data.

4. A method as in claim 1, wherein the second version of data is a copy of the first version of data.

5. A method as in claim 1, wherein the second version of data enables an interaction that is different from any interaction enabled by the first version of data.

6. A method as in claim 1, wherein:

a first computer program enables the interaction with the content using the first version of data representing the content; and

the step of enabling further comprises the step of executing a second computer program that enables the interaction with the content using the second version of data